

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:28PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Bill DeBlasio, Eileen Francolino, Bernie Feeney, Ken Leggo, Ed Marchion, Jim Marocchini, Bob Tofeldt, Mary Udice, Don Woods and Kathy Zolad

Board Members Absent: Jon Boni

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

Town Liaison: None present

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2011

MOTION: Mary Udice made a motion to approve the minutes of July 19, 2011. Bob Tofeldt seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion to approve the minutes of July 19, 2011 was unanimously approved with a 10-0 vote.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/ REPORTS

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Parks & Recreation Board had last met in July and an August meeting was not held. The monthly reports for July & August were e-mailed to board members. Bruce Till was pleased to report to the board members that both the camp and aquatics summer programs ran successfully. The fall brochure is out and some of the fall programs have already begun. Don Woods asked about the recent hurricane and if the town would be reimbursed. Bruce Till will meet with FEMA tomorrow morning to discuss reimbursement for overtime hours and equipment costs.

The Newington Extravaganza 2011/2010 Comparison Budget was passed out. The weather was good for 2011 which contributed to 2011 being successful. Eileen Francolino noted the increase cost over last year's for the Firework Permit as well as Fire Department Detail. Don Woods asked if the vendors were satisfied and Bruce Till received no complaints. Don Woods also mentioned that the band night should be reviewed in the future.

A letter from Northeast Midways was distributed to all board members commending Stephanie Boulay on her job performance and offering 3 contract possibilities for future consideration. Bruce Till agreed that Stephanie Boulay had done a great job and is a good addition to the Parks & Recreation department. Many board members agreed that \$20 wristband to ride all the rides should remain and not increase.

Board members also received a copy of the Clem Lemire Synthetic Turf Field Facility Rental Agreement. Eileen Francolino questioned if NHS teams would be able to get playing time on the Turf Field. Bruce Till stated that first priority would be given to the various youth sports organizations then the high school teams. Per Don Woods, this would be a permit only field.

MOTION: A motion was made by Kathy Zolad to accept the Clem Lemire Synthetic Facility Rental Agreement. Ken Leggo seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion to accept the Clem Lemire Synthetic Turf Field Facility Rental Agreement was approved with a 10-0 vote.

Eileen Francolino asked about the fee structure. Don Woods explained that locals would pay \$300 for 4 hours. Out-of-towners would pay \$400 for 4 hours. The lights would cost locals \$50 an hour and out-of-towners would pay \$60 an hour.

There are advertising signs to generate funds. The fee is \$250 for the first sign and \$100 renewal

annually. These signs are removed after the season is done. Bill DeBlasio suggested adding more rows for additional signs. Kathy Zolad suggested that since this is a multi-use field that Parks & Recreation should manage this. Bob Tofeldt reviewed how things are run at the Newington High School field. Don Woods will check with the Zoning department. Bruce Till asked Don Woods about putting a subcommittee together on this.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

MILL POND GRANT

Bruce Till reported that although meetings were held every Monday, the contractor has delayed progress on this and the work has not been completed yet. Bruce Till is being assured by the contractor that the stairs and bridge should be completed by the second week of October.

YOUTH SPORTS TRAVEL TEAM

Bill DeBlasio advised the board that the basketball program will become independent from Parks & Recreation like Midget Football, Soccer Club of Newington & Little League. Ken Leggo questioned a separation if any major issues were to occur as in the past. Bruce Till supports this decision and will oversee it. Bill DeBlasio reported that try-outs will be held in October.

CLEM LEMIRE SYNTHETIC FIELD

The opening day at the Clem Lemire Synthetic Turf Field went well. Although opening day arrived, more work needs to be completed. Bruce Till reported that the Turf Field representatives still have to meet with park personnel next Monday on how to groom the field. Adjustments need to be made to railings on stairs. The horizontal bar on the goals will have to be repainted. The Building Committee approved security cameras that are being installed next week. Bruce Till is looking into acquiring an eight foot fence around the new transformer.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

STARR PARK

The work at Starr Park was completed.

CHURCHILL PARK GAZEBO

Bob Tofeldt stated that this gazebo once stood at Mill Pond many years ago. The Kiwanis Club would sell food and drinks when Mill Pond was used for skating and swimming. Don Woods stated that the structure is in good condition but the roof is in disrepair. Don Woods met with 3 contractors to obtain quotes on repairing this structure which would be in the \$7500-\$9800 range. A new one would run approximately \$25,000-\$35,000. Ken Leggo suggested that one of the local technical schools may be able to do the repair to cut costs. Eileen Francolino thought Newington High School has a new program which might be interested in this. Don Woods thought this discussion could be put off to next months agenda.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Mary Udice to adjourn. Jimmy Marocchini seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14PM with an 8-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Loralyn Callahan